Mr. H. B. Gundappa.—

In view of the fact that the project will be big if all these places are connected, is it not possible to fix the percentage of return at a lower figure?

Secretary to Government, Krishnarajasagara Works and Electrical Department.—

Perhaps the Government may reduce it to about 4 or $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa.—

That will not be a substantial reduction. Taking into consideration the low rates of interest prevailing in the general money market, cannot the Government further reduce the percentage, say to 1 per cent?

First Member of Council.—

That is too small a percentage. It is the policy of Government to give electric lights to all towns provided the capital investment in each case yields an adequate return.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa.—

Have not the Government provided a lakh of rupees or so in the current year's budget for the electrification of Yedatore and Hunsur, and have not the concerned municipalities also undertaken to give the guarantee required?

Secretary to Government, Krishnarajasagara Works and Electrical Department.—

No doubt, provision has been made. But the estimates have not been sanctioned because the full return has not been guaranteed.

REPRESENTATIONS.

No. 1.—Reduction of salaries of Government officers drawing above Rs. 100.

Mr. V. Venkatasami Chetty, Chikballapur Municipality.

MR. V. VENKATASAMI CHETTY prayed that the salaries of all Government officers drawing above Rs. 100 be cut down by 25 per cent as a temporary measure till the financial position of the State improved.

THE DEWAN replied that he regretted it was not possible for Government to accept the suggestion.

No. 2.—Reduction of assessment on lands.

Messrs. Patel Halappa and V. V. Iyer, Shimoga Taluk; S. Siddabasappa, Shikarpur Taluk; K. Holeyappa Setty and Mallappa Gowda, Sorab Taluk.

MR. V. V. IYER prayed that, in view of the economic depression and the low price of agricultural produce, the land assessment be reduced by 25 per cent. He pointed out that when much smaller States had shown certain concessions, the Model State of Mysore should not lag behind.

MR. SIVANANJAPPA, in supporting the representation, pointed out that the question of reduction of land assessment was being urged on the attention of the Government for the past several years. The question had assumed serious proportions in view of the fact that prices of commodities had recently fallen considerably and it was very necessary therefore that Government should afford the utmost possible assistance to the hard-hit raiyats.

MR. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR observed that not only had prices fallen but the average yield had also gone down below 4 annas. In Mulbagal Taluk, for instance, the rainfall during the year was six inches less than the average. He thought that while remissions had been given in even fertile tracts in certain districts of the Madras Presidency and also in tracts where the general level of assessment was lower than in Mysore, a similar gesture ought to be forthcoming in the State. Government had no doubt given relief to the raiyats in some other respects but no measure of relief would count so much as reduction of land assessment. He was therefore of opinion that land assessment must be reduced by at least 50 per cent, especially in the Kolar District.

MR. SINGRI NANJAPPA observed that there was too great a disparity in the rates of assessment as between wet and garden lands on the one hand and dry lands on the other. The Government had attributed it to what was called "an unearned income" in the case of the former. But, as against that, he brought to notice that the prices had fallen to such an extent that it had become very difficult for the agriculturists to retain wet and garden lands; in fact, the position was such that they could neither retain the lands nor give them up. The speaker pointed out that when the returns were high, higher rates of assessment were charged, and it was only right that on the same analogy the assessment ought to be reduced when income had fallen.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL controverted the

statement that assessment varied with crop yield. He said that once the rates were fixed, they continued at the same level for a period of 30 years, no matter what crop was raised or what price was realised.

THE DEWAN added that the prices of garden and dry crops continued to rule high even now and that it was chiefly the holders of wet lands that had been hard-hit by the general fall in prices.

MR. CHANNABASAPPA observed that the agriculturist had no other means of paying land revenue than by selling all his crop. And if it fetched less than the assessment itself, he could not pay the assessment at all, not to speak of his own maintenance. The speaker therefore prayed that a reduction of at least 12½ per cent in land assessment be given.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMI observed that this matter was being urged on the attention of Government ever since 1928, and as such no fresh arguments were necessary to make out a case for reduction of land assessment. Only, the Government had to make up their mind to give the concession prayed for. And the present was the most opportune time for them to translate their sympathy for the agriculturist, if they had any, into action. Government had promised in 1931 to give relief to the raiyats if the prices then existing continued to remain at the same level and the situation did not improve. Though the prices did continue at the same level and the situation had not improved, still no relief had been ordered. There was one peculiar difficulty in the way of the agriculturists getting the relief which they so much needed. The budget session came off in the month of June and that was the time when provision for granting relief should be made. But, every time, the Government tried to circumvent the situation by saying that a major portion of the land revenue had already been recovered, that only one *khist* remained to be collected, that therefore the question of relief, if at all it was proposed to be granted, would have to refer to the following year, and that it would be too premature to forecast then how the position would be several months thereafter. Year after year the same history was repeating itself, with the result that no relief was actually granted to the agriculturists at any time. He appealed to the Dewan not to do so on the present occasion also, but to grant the concession prayed for. The agriculturists were passing through unprecedented difficulties and they would be ever grateful to the Dewan if the concession prayed for was shown.

MR. G. M. CHANDRASEKHAR observed that the agriculturists, being self-respecting men, had sold away all their jewels in order to pay their kandayam in respect of past years and had nothing else to sell for paying the current year's dues. He was afraid that unless some substantial relief was given, the raiyats would have to relinquish all their lands. He appealed to Government to see that such a situation did not arise.

MR. H. GANGAPPA emphasised the same argument and appeal.

A MEMBER from Sira pointed out the difficulties of the raiyats in the Sira Taluk. There had been no rains in the taluk for the past 20 years. Their position had become very precarious. Some time back, the Revenue Commissioner, after personally inspecting the spot and hearing the representations of the people, had granted remission in certain cases and takavi loans in certain other cases. But some time after, malaria broke out in an epidemic form and took a heavy toll. Although there were some rains recently, there were not enough people to carry on cultivation and it had become very difficult for the survivors to pay kandayam and so, many lands had been auctioned though almost all of them had been knocked down only in the name of Government. For these reasons, he pressed for a percentage reduction of land assessment, particularly in the Sira Taluk.

MR. C. N. NARASINGA RAO, who spoke next, observed that unlike the State's budget which could be adjusted by means of extra taxes and new sources of income, the budget of the agriculturist was inelastic since he had only one source of income from which all his expenditure had to be met. And any deficit in his budget could only be met by borrowings or by selling away his properties, if any. Crops being poor and prices low, the agriculturist was not able to meet the land revenue demand without selling his gold and other jewels. Now that there was no more to sell, he had to borrow money, but on account of the extension of the Agriculturists Relief Regulation he commanded no credit. His difficulties were very great and he stood in dire need of special relief, particularly in the shape of reduction of land assessment, if possible by 50 per cent or at least by 25 per cent.

MR. K. V. VEERANNA pointed out that there was no difference of opinion among the members on this subject and he appealed to the Dewan to grant the concession prayed for by all the members with one voice.

MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR, in supporting the representation, observed that whatever relief was given would be thankfully received by the raiyats, since that would at least show to them that the Government had after all realised the gravity of the situation and really sympathized with their condition. It was not true that small concessions would not be appreciated by the agriculturists. Their plight was such that even the smallest concession would loom large in their eyes. The loss in revenue could be made up somehow or other, or even if it was not made up, Government should not mind it. He pointed out that real statesmanship alone could ease the present situation. He added that just as Government had once gone readily to the rescue of their officers by granting them high price allowances when the prices of foodstuffs had risen abnormally and just as they had gone to the rescue of the Krishnarajendra Mills recently by granting Rs. 20 lakhs for working expenses and for meeting losses, similarly, they should grant some relief to the helpless agriculturists at the present time and ease their hardships.

At this stage all the members stood up in a body and pressed for a favourable reply by the Government.

THE DEWAN said that he was not prepared to make any statement immediately.

No. 9.—Payment of land revenue in eight or six instalments commencing from the mouth of March instead of from February.

Messrs. Patel Veere Gowda and T. C. Subbe Gowda, Dodballapur Taluk; B. L. Byanna, Bangalore City Municipality; B. M. Munisamappa, Bangalore Taluk; R. Dasappa, Devanhalli Taluk; and H. Gangappa, Magadi Taluk.

MR. R. DASAPPA represented that, under the existing rules, land revenue was payable in four instalments commencing from the month of February. By that time, the raiyat would not have reaped his harvest. Even in the following months, owing to the prevailing fall in the prices of foodstuffs, the agriculturist found it difficult to pay the full kandayam in four instalments. The speaker therefore prayed that land revenue might be made payable in eight, or at least six, instalments commencing from the month of March. He added that the land assessment also might be reduced as prayed for in the previous representation as there would be no use merely increasing the number of *khists*.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA opposed the request for increasing the number of *khists* on the ground that the agriculturists would have cash on hand only during February and March.

MR. PUTTASWAMI GOWDA also was of the same opinion.

THE DEWAN observed that that was the correct view to take and that an increase in the number of instalments would give no relief to the agriculturist.

No. 10.—Reduction of *hisse* fees.

Mr. Donthi Aswathanaraniah, Sidlaghatta Municipality.

MR. DONTHI ASWATHANARANIAH represented that the Record of Rights fee was fixed at Rs. 2 per *hisse* if a sub-division had to be effected and eight annas for a full number. The raiyats were so poor that they could not even pay their kandayam and these rates were working as a great hardship on them; and especially the raiyats holding lands in different survey numbers felt it all the more. As Record of Rights work in the case of entire survey numbers did not involve measurement, he prayed that the levy of eight annas in such cases be abolished and that in cases where measurement and sub-division were involved, the *hisse* fee be reduced from Rs. 2 to Re 1.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that the *hisse* fee had been recently reduced to Rs. 1-8-0 and could not be reduced still further as it was meant to meet the cost of work actually done. It was not also possible to do away with the levy of eight annas charged in the case of full survey numbers as it represented the minimum that could be charged.

MR. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR said that much more than what was actually required for expenditure was being collected by way of fees.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that it was not so. The Survey Superintendent was pressing for enhanced salaries to the establishment, but Government had not sanctioned the proposals for want of funds. Also, in many taluks work was still going on and it was too early to say whether the collections were more than necessary. He had no hesitation in saying that Government were not out to make a profit under the Record of Rights scheme.

MR. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR prayed that only the actual amount of expenditure required for introducing the scheme into each village might be collected from the land-holders of that particular village. He also suggested that only the work already taken on hand need be completed and that the scheme need not be introduced in other places for sometime to come.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that the Government were not anxious to introduce the scheme into other places and that no new taluks had been taken up during the current year.

ANOTHER MEMBER suggested that the work already taken up be completed very early, but that the financial condition of the raiyats being very unsatisfactory, the recovery of the fees might be postponed for four or five years.

MR. G. KANCHAPPA thought that it would be desirable to take up the work in all the taluks. But the *hisse* fees should be reduced from Rs. 2 to Re. 1 in the case of sub-numbers and from eight annas to four annas in the case of full numbers.

MR. ABDUL KHALEEL SAHEB said that if a land-owner sold only a portion of his land, both the seller and the purchaser were asked to pay fees on account of measurement and sub-division, which was not just. So long as the extent of the original plot of land was known, it was quite enough if the extent of the portion sold was measured and a fee recovered from the purchaser.

MESSRS. H. R. GURUVA REDDY and BORANNA GOWDA supported this representation.

THE DEWAN observed that the question of further reduction of fees would be considered.

MR. G. KANCHAPPA once again stressed the desirability of taking up Record of Rights work in all the taluks as early as possible.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER said that when the *hisse* survey already taken up was over, the question of extending the operations to other taluks would be considered.

MR. NARAYANA REDDY represented that at least in the case of the poorer raiyats, the fees should be reduced. He also brought to notice that in some instances, excess collections had been made and requested that they be ordered to be refunded to the parties.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that the request for a reduction of fees was being made at every session. With the department gaining more and more experience, he hoped that the cost of the department could be reduced and in this view, he said that Government would consider how far a further reduction of rates could be ordered before October next.

MR. VEERA SANJEEVA GOWDA said that even for transferring *khates* from father to son on the death of the former,

the department was levying at the rate of one rupee, and requested that that should not be done.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that that point would also be considered.

No. 11.—*Hisse* fees under the Record of Rights scheme.

Messrs. S. P. Brahmappa, Hassan Municipality; H. B. Gundappa and B. Donde Gowda, Hassan Taluk; S. N. Cheluve Gowda, M. Nanjappa and B. L. Hutchappa, Channarayapatna Taluk; B. M. Deva Gowda and B. N. Boranna Gowda, Belur Taluk; Kolla Narasimha Setty, Arsikere Municipality; Basave Gowda, M. R. Puttaswamiah and A. Kenchappa, Arsikere Taluk; Narasimhaiya, Hole-Narsipur Municipality; K. Ramanna, Hole-Narsipur Taluk; A. V. Nanjunda Setty and H. N. Dyavappa Gowda, Arkalgud Taluk; B. K. Some Gowda and B. Devappa Gowda, Manjarabad Taluk; and A. S. Nanjundappa, Alur Sub-Taluk.

MESSRS. BRAHMAPPA and H. B. GUNDAPPA prayed that in cases where an individual owned more *hisses* than one in the same survey number in the taluks where Record of Rights scheme had been introduced, full fees might be ordered to be levied only in respect of one *hisse*, and in respect of the remaining *hisses*, only half the fee might be ordered to be levied automatically by the Government itself, without insisting on the presentation of petitions by *hissedars* with stamps duly affixed as per rules.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that orders had been passed in the matter in May last and notified for the information of the public.

No. 12.—Recovery of dry assessment on wet lands where dry crops are grown for want of water supply.

Mr. N. Venkatarayappa, Sidlaghatta Taluk.

MR. N. VENKATARAYAPPA prayed that only dry rates of assessment be recovered on wet lands on which dry crops alone could be raised for want of supply of water from the tanks. At present, wet rates were being levied on such lands in the Kolar District for a number of years past, which was not fair.

MR. NARAYANA REDDY, in supporting the above view, said that in spite of the fact that *pahani* accounts showed that only dry crops were raised, wet rate of assessment was being levied in the Kolar District and that the raiyats were being put to great hardship on that account. He prayed that Government should levy only dry rates of assessment wherever dry crops were raised.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that the principle had always been recognised that wet rates of assessment were levied on wet lands and dry rates on dry lands. If for

want of water in the tank in any year, wet crops could not be raised in particular areas, such cases would get relief under the remission rules. If on the other hand, the *atchkat* of any tank was more than the capacity of the tank, it would be a different matter altogether and in such cases, the parties concerned could certainly apply to the department for converting the lands from wet to dry.

MR. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR observed that, in certain cases, lands under tanks were not at all getting any supply from the tank and crops were grown only with the help of rain water, and in such cases, there was no justification to levy wet rates of assessment.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that it was not possible to discuss the entire land revenue policy in connection with an individual representation. Once a classification of lands was made under the Survey Settlement, it could not be changed for 30 years to come. Such being the case, it was not possible to accept the argument that wet assessment should altogether be done away with before the next settlement fell due.

No. 13.—Recovery of assessment on lands sold for arrears of revenue from the time the *saguvali chit* is delivered.

Mr. K. Rudrappa, Devanahalli Taluk.

MR. K. RUDRAPPA prayed that assessment on lands sold for arrears of revenue be levied only from the year following the date of delivery of the *saguvali chits* to the auction purchasers.

MR. G. KANCHAPPA said that, at present, it took about 5 to 6 months for the confirmation of the sale and issue of the *saguvali chit* to the party purchasing the land. Till that time the party could not enter upon the land, and by the time the *saguvali chit* was received, the sowing season would have been over with the result that during that year the party could not raise any crop whatsoever on the land. For this reason, he supported the representation.

MR. K. V. VEERANNA also supported the representation.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that in some cases there might be crops standing on the lands even at the time of auction. If so, there should be no objection to the assessment being demanded from the party for the same year. According to the rules, the auction purchaser would become responsible for payment of assessment from the date of auction. What was required was that delays in confirming the sales and placing the purchaser in possession of the lands

should be avoided and this aspect of the case would be examined by Government.

MR. G. KANCHAPPA requested that the representation be considered sympathetically at least in the case of *darkhast* lands.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that in the case of *darkhasts*, if the order of confirmation was received after the cultivation season, no assessment would be levied for that year.

No. 14.—Reduction of water rate under the Vedavati River.

Mr. T. Shadaksharappa, Challakere Taluk.

MR. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA represented that the raiyats were taking water from the Vedavati River by means of channels dug at their own expense after removing heavy deposits of sand over long distances and cultivating their lands. In summer, they could not raise any crop inasmuch as the river would be dry. During the rainy season, the channels would again get silted up and it would take a fortnight or more to remove the silt. As the raiyats were thus put to much trouble and expense in every season and in spite thereof the yield of crops was not much owing to inadequate supply of water, he prayed that the existing water rate of Rs. 3 per acre should be reduced to its original level of Rs. 2.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER observed that, orginally the rate was not uniform but varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4. Later on a uniform rate of Rs. 3-8-0 per acre had been fixed and very recently even that had been further reduced to Rs. 3.

MR. SHADAKSHARAPPA represented that even that was high and should be reduced to Rs. 2.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER said that no decision could be arrived at on the floor of the Assembly in the matter. The Deputy Commissioner had reported that he was examining the matter and on receipt of his report, Government would look into it.

No. 15.—Levy of water rate for unauthorised use of water.

Messrs. K. V. Veeranna, Gurubasappa and K. C. Subbanna, Chamarajnagar Taluk; M. C. Linge Gowda and S. C. Mallaiya, Maddur Taluk; S. H. Anjaneya and Y. V. Gundu Rao, Yedatore Taluk; K. M. Krishnappa Gowda, Nagamangala Taluk; H. K. Madaiya and Puttaswami Gowda, Malvalli Taluk; A. Linge Gowda, S. K. Sidde Gowda and S. Thimme Gowda *alias* Thammayya Gowda, Krishnarajapet Taluk; H. Honnaiya and M. L. Linganna, Mandya Taluk; B. Chamaiya and D. Mari Gowda, Seringapatam Taluk; Kongalappa and P. Basappa, Gundlupet Taluk; Patel Sidde Gowda and H. Hombe Gowda, T.-Narsipur Taluk; D. Chikke Urs, Periyapatna Sub-Taluk; Sivananjegowda and Savandaiya, Mysore Taluk;

B. S. Puttaswami and T. S. Madappa, Nanjangud Taluk; C. Dasappa and Basappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk; P. Sannamallappa, Yelandur Jahgir; T. Mariappa, Mysore City Municipality; K. Kempe Gowda, Mandya Municipality; Mahomed Hussain *alias* Sabjan Sahib, Hunsur Municipality; and K. Nanjaiya, Malvalli Municipality.

MR. K. V. VEERANNA represented that the revised rules ordering the levy of treble the water rate for unauthorised use of water for lands under tanks instead of twice the water rate, worked as a great hardship to the raiyats and that therefore the old order directing the levy of only double the water rate should be restored.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that according to the old rules, if water was taken with previous permission, only twice the water rate would be levied and that order still remained in force. The object of the revised order was to prevent the unauthorised use of water and to assure to the *atchkatdars* an adequate supply of water to their lands.

MR. S. C. MALLAIYA said that generally no raiyat would raise wet crops on dry lands except when there were heavy rains or overflow of water from the tank. Even then, he would apply to the Revenue Department for permission and then use the water. But the cause of all the trouble was that the Revenue Department would have to consult the Public Works Department and by the time a reply was received he would have raised the crop. To levy thrice the rate in such cases would mean great hardship to raiyats. In such cases, he requested that only twice the water rate should be levied, the penal rate being levied only in cases where the raiyats used water without applying for permission at all.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that it was not likely that dry lands which were always on a higher level than wet lands would get inundated on account of overflow of water from the tanks.

MR. S. C. MALLAIYA stated that there were many cases in which dry lands had actually come under water.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that in cases of delay either by the Revenue or by the Public Works Department in granting permission to utilise water, Government would be prepared to show some concession.

ANOTHER MEMBER said that with a view to avoid the delays referred to above, the Shanbhogues and Patels might be empowered to allow the raiyats to raise wet crops on the land and to bring the same to the notice of the department

so that the jamabandi officer might levy the assessment legitimately due from the party. That, he thought, was the proper course to adopt, and the levy of an extra rate or fine in such cases was unjust.

MR. H. K. MADAIYA suggested that Amildars be empowered to permit raiyats to utilise water for purposes of wet cultivation. That, he said would save a lot of delay.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that the Amildars could permit the use of water if it was for one year and there was no reason whatsoever for delay. The Public Works Department would have to be consulted only if water was wanted for longer periods.

MR. H. K. MADAIYA brought to notice that even when permission was sought only for one year, such permission was not being received in time. He also represented that in addition to thrice the water rate, a fine also was being imposed for unauthorised use of water and that it should be abolished.

One of the members from Molakalmuru Taluk pointed out that in one case, as a result of the delay on the part of the revenue authorities in the disposal of an application for utilising water in respect of a land of 8 acres which was not actually worth Rs. 100, the total levy had gone up to Rs. 160. The times were very bad and people were unable to pay even the normal assessments. He therefore requested that so long as an application was made in time, only twice the rate should be levied.

MR. DONDE GOWDA supported the request.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that the original orders regulating such cases were much more stringent than the revised, and the rule as modified was more favourable to the raiyats. And even though, according to the circumstances of the case, fines were being levied, the parties could appeal to the Deputy Commissioner or to the Revenue Commissioner against the orders in cases where they considered that the orders passed were not just.

ANOTHER MEMBER from Sira Taluk represented that some special concession in the matter was urgently needed.

THE DEWAN observed that cases of special hardship would be looked into.

No. 17.—Levy of Thoti and Thalari Cess.

Messrs. Patel Basappa, Challakere Taluk; and Malkappa, Jagalur Taluk.

MR. P. MURUGESAM PILLAY represented that it was a matter of common knowledge that the raiyats were not paying

miras to thotis and thalaris regularly and the Amildars could not entertain any complaints or appeals. These village servants were doing the work of the raiyats as well as of the village officers without getting any return from them. For these reasons, he suggested that a cess be levied from the raiyats along with land revenue and that the sum so realised be distributed among the thotis and thalaris.

MESSRS. VENKATASWAMI GOWDA, VEMA REDDY and some other members opposed the representation.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that in these days of depression, it was not possible to levy any additional cess.

No. 18.—Grant of enhanced powers to the Deputy Commissioners in cases of refunds of excess kandayam paid.

Mr. Tudki Ramanna Gowda, Tirthahalli Taluk.

MR. TUDKI RAMANNA GOWDA prayed that the time limit fixed for the Deputy Commissioners to sanction the refund of excess kandayam paid by parties might be done away with and the Deputy Commissioners made the final authority for ordering refunds in all such cases.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that Deputy Commissioners already had power to refund up to Rs. 500 and also three years' assessment.

MR. TUDKI RAMANNA GOWDA said that those powers were not enough and should be enhanced.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHYACHAR said that the present rules were all right and needed no modification.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that enhanced powers were not necessary. Cases not falling within the existing powers of Deputy Commissioners were very few and such cases, if any, should go before the Revenue Commissioner.

No. 34.—Selection to Guru Peetas in Mutts to be confined to the disciples of the Mutt who are Mysoreans.

Messrs. S. P. Brahmappa, Hassan Municipality; H. B. Gundappa and B. Donde Gowda, Hassan Taluk; S. N. Cheluve Gowda, M. Nanjappa and B. L. Hutchappa, Channarayapatna Taluk; B. M. Deva Gowda and B. N. Boranna Gowda, Belur Taluk; Kolla Narasimha Setty, Arsikere Municipality; Basave Gowda, M. R. Puttaswamiah and A. Kenchappa, Arsikere Taluk; Narasimhaiya, Hole-Narsipur Municipality; K. Ramanna, Hole-Narsipur Taluk; A. V. Nanjunda Setty and H. N. Dyavappa Gowda, Arkalgud Taluk; B. K. Some Gowda and B. Devappa Gowda, Manjarabad Taluk; and A. S. Nanjundappa, Alur Sub-Taluk.

MR. S. P. BRAHMAPPA represented that in the Order of 1892, succession to Guru Peetas had not been restricted to

the disciples of the concerned mutts who were Mysoreans, and as a result of it many outsiders who had little or no interest in the welfare of the mutts or their disciples had succeeded to the Peetas. With a view to improve matters, it was necessary to modify the rules regarding the succession of Gurus to mutts so as to confine the selection to competent persons from among the disciples of the mutt concerned and who, in addition to being natives of the State, also knew the usages of the mutt.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHYACHAR said that there ought to be no objection to any disciple of the mutt, even though he might be an outsider, to succeed to the Peeta if by qualification and merit, he deserved it, and if equally qualified disciples were not available in the State. There would be no difficulty so far as the usages were concerned as the managing committee would see that they were adhered to. For this reason, he was not in favour of Government interfering with the existing practice.

MR. S. P. BRAHMAPPA pointed out that the Gurus coming from outside actually took no interest in the spiritual welfare of the local disciples of the mutts. They were not troubling themselves even to train up proper men to succeed to the Peetas when the time for it came.

MR. BORANNA GOWDA said that each outsider succeeding to a Peeta brought with him a number of his own friends and relatives one of whom invariably succeeded him, with the result that local men lost all their chances, and local practices were also ignored. There were many complaints against most mutts in Mysore on this account.

ANOTHER MEMBER said that the representation was not sound enough for general adoption. If at all, it might be applied only to mutts where public interests had suffered on account of outsiders suceeding to the Peetas.

Dharmapravartha M. L. NAGAPPA SETTY thought that such subjects should not be allowed to be discussed on the floor of the House.

The representation was thereupon not pressed.

No. 35.—Repeal of the Agriculturists Relief Regulation.

Messrs. A. V. Nanjunda Setty, Arkalgud Taluk; K. Ramanna, Hole-Narsipur Taluk; Narasimhaiya, Hole-Narsipur Municipality; B. Devappa Gowda and B. K. Some Gowda, Manjarabad Taluk; and S. P. Brahmappa, Hassan Municipality.

Though the Agriculturists Relief Regulation which has come into force from 1st January 1934, is intended to afford relief in many ways to the indebted raiyats, it has affected

them quite adversely inasmuch as they are now unable to raise a loan of even Rs. 25 to meet urgent expenses in connection with the agricultural operations. It is therefore prayed that the Regulation may be repealed.

No. 36.—Exclusion of the Maidan districts from the operation of the Agriculturists Relief Regulation.

Mr. K. Srikantiah, Special Interests.

The Agriculturists Relief Regulation which was originally intended for the malnad parts is now brought into force throughout the maidan parts of the State also, without consulting the people of these parts and without due notice to them. This has caused a good deal of hardship to the raiyats as well as the merchants. It is therefore prayed that the maidan districts be kindly excluded from the operation of this Regulation.

These representations were reserved for being discussed along with a resolution pertaining to the same subject.

No. 37.—Fixing the rate of interest on private loans.

Messrs. Bale Gowda, Kunigal Taluk; Sheik Mohadeen Sab, Sira Municipality; and K. V. Subrahmanyaswami, Kunigal Municipality.

MR. BALE GOWDA represented that due to the tightness of money market and economic depression, many banks had reduced their rates of interest and even the Government had done the same. But private money-lenders were extorting very high rates of interest from the poorer classes of people and as a result thereof, the latter were experiencing a lot of difficulty. For these reasons, he prayed that the maximum rates of interest be fixed by legislation as follows:—

Rs. 50 to Rs. 500	...	...	9 per cent.
Rs. 500 to Rs. 5,000	...	...	6 per cent.
Rs. 5,000 and upwards		...	5 per cent.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that the matter was engaging the attention of the Government and that the question how far action on the lines suggested could be taken would be considered.

MR. K. V. VEERANNA suggested that the maximum rate be fixed at 12 per cent.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that that suggestion would also be noted.

MR. N. SIDDALINGA DEVARU said that the Co-operative Conference had also passed an unanimous resolution that an Usurious Loans Act should be introduced in the Mysore State and he requested that the Government should give the matter their best consideration.

MR. BALE GOWDA suggested that a committee be appointed to investigate the matter.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that the matter had been discussed at a special meeting and that some definite proposals were before Government. They would consider all the aspects of the case and pass suitable orders and if necessary even introduce a special Regulation.

No. 38.—Measures to prevent Punjabis from levying usurious rates of interest.

Mr. V. R. Chikchennanjappa Setty, Kolar Municipality.

About 500 Punjabis have come and settled in our State. They receive interest at cent per cent rates. It is prayed that Government be pleased to consider urgently this important matter and safeguard the interest and safety of the people.

This representation was not discussed in view of discussions on the previous representation.

No. 39.—Legislation to prevent animal sacrifice.

Mr. A. G. Muddarachappa, Bowringpet Municipality.

MR. A. G. MUDDARACHAPPA represented that in the name of Mari Jatra and Gange Jatra, hundreds of animals were being sacrificed. Recently, the Nizam's Government had prohibited animal sacrifice before places of public worship. It was high time that a similar step was taken in the Mysore State also.

THE DEWAN observed that this was a matter in respect of which public opinion had first to be educated and not one for legislation to begin with.

MR. K. V. VEERANNA said that animal sacrifices might be allowed in private.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that Government would consider what action would be necessary to prevent the killing of animals openly.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHYACHAR said that when fruits and flowers were available in plenty to be offered to Gods, there was no need to kill animals in their name. Local bodies were not doing their duty in regard to this matter and it was therefore necessary that Government should do something to effectively put a stop to animal sacrifice.

MR. MURUGESAM PILLAY said that even though members of the higher castes supplied animals to be offered as sacrifice, the stigma of killing the animals was attached only to the depressed classes. Much of the complaint would disappear if the higher castes gave up the practice. But

they were not likely to do so. It was therefore necessary to pass a legislation prohibiting the slaughter of animals even on religious grounds.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR said that in many places where animal sacrifice was taking place, invariably there were disputes between parties and those preventing such sacrifices were arrested by the police so that *mamool* was not interfered with. It was therefore best to pass legislation prohibiting the sacrifice of animals in public. Times had changed and people had begun to feel that all practices which were revolting to the finer senses should be put down. Prevalence of such practices would give room for the impression that the people of the State were uncivilized. For these reasons, it was necessary to prevent animal sacrifice by means of legislation, which should also provide for punishing those that supplied animals or otherwise aided the slaughter.

MR. JATHARE NAIK also supported the representation.

MR. G. M. CHANDRASEKHAR brought to the notice of the House that, in Kamalapura, members of the Tumkur Prani Daya Sangha prevented certain animal sacrifices and a case had been launched against them for it. To avoid such instances, he thought that legislation in the matter was necessary.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA said that even though it was generally agreed in principle that animal sacrifice should be prevented, there were certain practical difficulties in the way of passing a legislation in the matter. And the direct result of legislative interference would be that the people would be put to a great deal of inconvenience and harassment at the hands of the police.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that it was agreed on all hands that animal sacrifice should be discouraged, but the main question to be considered was how it should be done. Government had issued orders so far back as 1927 preventing such sacrifices in public places and it was hoped that effect was being given to those orders. It might be that the animals were sometimes taken in procession, but he believed that the sacrifice itself was done only in private places.

MR. V. VENKATAPPA enquired whether temples in front of which animals were frequently sacrificed were private or public places.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that that would be a matter for decision by the District Magistrate.

MR. V. VENKATAPPA requested that the order of 1927 should be strictly enforced in all places.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that as far as possible it was being done.

MR. S. C. MALLAIYA brought to notice that, in connection with the Sri Narasimhaswami *Rathothsava* and the Maddurammana Jatra in Maddur Taluk, a very large number of animals were being killed, their blood flowing almost in every street. He requested that this should be put an end to.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the matter would be enquired into.

At this stage, the Assembly rose for lunch and reassembled at 3-30 P.M.

In the absence of the Dewan, the First Member of Council took the chair in the afternoon.

REPRESENTATIONS—(*Concluded*).

No. 40.—Introduction of labour legislation in the State.
Mr. K. T. Bhashyam Aiyangar, Special Interests.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR represented that thousands of people in the State were working as wage earners. The wages paid to them were not at all adequate, and no amenities like housing had been created for them by their employers. In British India, on the recommendation of the Whitley Commission, several facilities had been created for them recently. The minimum wages were fixed and the hours of work also prescribed. The labourers were also provided with housing facilities by their employers. They had also a Trade Disputes Act and a Trade Conciliation Act to settle all disputes arising between capital and labour. On frequent representations made by the Representative Assembly that similar action be taken in Mysore also, Government had introduced a Bill in Mysore, but it was soon withdrawn with a view to improve some of the provisions. It was now two or three years since the report of this Commission was published and the Government of India had already taken action on it. But so far, the Mysore Government had not taken action except ordering that provision should be made for medical relief and maternity benefit in all Government factories. It was high time that action in other respects was taken and made applicable to private

factories also. He also brought to notice that the Conciliation Board that had been appointed was not working satisfactorily and required to be pulled up.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the question was being examined and that Government would introduce the necessary legislation as early as possible.

MR. T. RAMACHANDRA suggested, in this connection, that Government might appoint a small committee of officials and non-officials to ascertain the views of those in touch with labour conditions in the State and make a report to Government.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the suggestion would be borne in mind.

No. 41.—Reduction of court fees.

Messrs. Patel Veere Gowda and T. C. Subbe Gowda, Dodballapur Taluk; T. Madiah Gowda and V. Venkatappa, Channapatna Taluk; R. Rangiah, Channapatna Municipality; B. M. Munisamappa, Bangalore Taluk; A. M. Venkatasamiah, Closepet Municipality; G. Venkataramana Gowda and M. Linge Gowda, Kankanhalli Taluk; K. Gurusami Gowda, Hoskote Taluk; K. Rudrappa, Devanhalli Taluk; Veerasanjeeve Gowda and M. B. Gurulingiah, Closepet Taluk; and B. L. Byanna, Bangalore City Municipality.

It is prayed that the levy of *ad valorem* court fee for the institution of civil suits may be reduced from 10 per cent to what it was originally, *viz.*, 7½ per cent, in view of the considerable fall in the prices of food grains and the present financial stringency.

No. 42.—Reduction of court fees.

Messrs. A. G. Muddarachappa, Bowringpet Municipality; and V. Venkatasami Chetty, Chikballapur Municipality.

The present rate of court fee is Rs. 10 per hundred. In view of the present economic depression, it is prayed that both court fee, process stamps and registration fee be reduced to original rates.

No. 43.—Reduction of court fees.

Messrs. Marwadi Rajappa, Harihar Municipality; and Malkappa, Jagalur Taluk.

It is prayed that the court fee stamps of 10 per cent levied may be reduced to the original rate of 7½ per cent.

No. 44.—Reduction of court fees.

Messrs. K. V. Veeranna, Gurubasappa and K. C. Subbanna, Chamarajnagar Taluk; M. C. Linge Gowda and S. C. Mallaiya, Maddur Taluk; S. H. Anjaneya and Y. V. Gundu Rao, Yedatore Taluk; K. M. Krishnappa Gowda, Nagamangala Taluk; H. K. Madaiya and Puttaswami Gowda, Malvalli Taluk; A. Linge Gowda, S. K. Sidde Gowda and S. K. Thimme Gowda *alias* Thammayya

Gowda, Krishnarajapet Taluk; H. Honnaiya and M. L. Linganna, Mandya Taluk; B. Chamaiya and D. Mari Gowda, Seringapatam Taluk; Kongalappa and P. Basappa, Gundlupet Taluk; Patel Sidde Gowda and H. Hombe Gowda, T.-Narsipur Taluk: D. Chikke Urs, Periyapatna Sub-Taluk; Sivananje Gowda and Savandayya, Mysore Taluk; B. S. Puttaswami and T. S. Madappa, Nanjangud Taluk; C. Dasappa and Basappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk; P. Sannamallappa, Yelandur Jahgir; T. Mariappa, Mysore City Municipality; K. Kempe Gowda, Mandya Municipality; Mahomed Hussain *alias* Sabjan Sahib, Hunsur Municipality; and K. Nanjaiya, Malvalli Municipality.

Owing to the present acute economic depression when the raiyats are finding it very hard to repay their debts, they feel the court costs as an additional burden. It is therefore prayed that the rate of court fee stamp may be reduced from 10 per cent to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

No. 45.—Reduction of court fee in civil suits.

Mr. V. V. Iyer, Shimoga Taluk.

It is prayed that the court fee in civil suits may be reduced from 10 per cent to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

MR. PATEL VEERE GOWDA prayed that the levy of *ad valorem* court fee for the institution of civil suits might be reduced from 10 per cent to what it was originally, *viz.*, $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in view of the considerable fall in the prices of food grains and the low economic condition of the raiyats.

MR. S. C. MALLAIYA represented that the question was being pressed on the attention of Government by the Assembly for several years past. It was not right that Government should make the Judicial Department, which was meant for meting out justice to the people, a source of profit as they were doing. The profits earned by this department were being utilized for other purposes and the litigant public was put to hardship by it. He therefore prayed that the rates be reduced to the previous level.

MESSRS. H. K. MADAIYA, M. S. PUTTARAMA SETTY, KANCHAPPA and SHROFF RANGASWAMI SETTY represented that generally speaking, the poorer classes resorted to courts more largely. In view of the changed conditions, it was difficult for them to bear court costs and lawyers' fees and other charges and also pay the decree amount whenever their creditors filed suits and obtained decrees against them. In this view they supported the representation.

MESSRS. MIR MAHOMED SAHIB and A. G. MUDDARACHAPPA further supported the representation.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL explained that the budget estimates had counted on an income of Rs. 12 lakhs

under court fee stamps and that it would fall by Rs. 3 lakhs if the rates were reduced as proposed. He added that the question had come up for discussion before the last session of the Assembly, and the Dewan had, after due consideration, observed in his concluding remarks that the matter would have to lie over till the State's finances improved. As the condition of the State's finances continued to be far from satisfactory, he regretted that no reduction of rates was possible, at any rate, for a year more.

MESSRS. B. S. PUTTASWAMI, A. G. MUDDARACHAPPA and B. L. BYANNA assured the Government that if the rates were reduced to the original level, the number of suits filed would increase enormously and it would result in extra revenue.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL pointed out that when the rates were raised, the income did not fall and so there was no certainty that the income would increase if the rates were lowered.

MR. S. K. VENKATARANGIENGAR suggested that the Assembly's request in this behalf might be accepted and given effect to at least in the year 1935-36.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that no such promise could be given but that Government would examine the matter whether the income was likely to increase if the rate was reduced to 7½ per cent.

No. 46.—Empowering civil courts to dismiss suits claiming usurious rates of interest.

Mr. A. G. Muddarachappa, Bowringpet Municipality.

MR. A. G. MUDDARACHAPPA represented that interest ranging from one anna to three annas per rupee per month was being charged by usurers in the Kolar District. As this caused great hardship to the poor raiyats, he prayed that civil courts be empowered to dismiss suits claiming such heavy rates of interest and to allow interest only at 6 per cent per annum.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL enquired whether, if the representation was accepted, money-lenders would be willing to lend money at 6 per cent in future.

MR. MUDDARACHAPPA replied in the affirmative and added that there was a fall in the rates of interest everywhere and even Multani money-lenders had reduced their rates considerably.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that even now the civil courts had power to go behind unconscionable transactions. He, however, promised to consider the

suggestion in connection with the question of introducing a Money Lenders' Bill.

No. 47.—Periodical inspection and issue of brake certificates for buses plying for hire.

Messrs. G. Sankara Setty and P. Nagarajiah, Pavagada Taluk.

This subject was not taken up as the movers were absent.

No. 48.—Establishing a dispensary for women in every taluk headquarters.

Messrs. R. P. Rajanna, Goribidnur Taluk; and Chickrame Gowda, Kolar Taluk.

MR. M. S. PUTTARAMA SETTY represented that maternity hospitals were found only in big cities. As immense difficulty was felt in the taluk areas for want of this amenity, he prayed that dispensaries for women might be opened in all taluk headquarter stations.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that they were being opened as far as possible.

MR. V. V. IYER enquired if dispensaries could be opened at least in places where the local bodies gave their quota of the cost.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHYACHAR suggested that till such time as separate dispensaries for women were opened, at least a lady doctor be appointed in all existing dispensaries.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the District Boards should take the initiative in such matters.

MR. H. GANGAPPA represented that even where the local bodies had taken the initiative, such as in the case of the Magadi Municipality, sanction of Government had not been communicated.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the District Board had not agreed to the proposal of the Magadi Municipality.

MR. GANGAPPA said that so long as the municipality was prepared to bear its quota, the Government should sanction the proposal even though the District Board was not in favour.

MR. V. VENKATAPPA pointed out that in many instances in which the District Board had agreed to give contribution, the Government had ordered the question to lie over, simply because they were unable to pay their quota, and so there was no justification in blaming the District Board. And so far as the request of the Magadi Municipality was concerned, he said that the Senior Surgeon had not so far referred the papers to the District Board at all.

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Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMI observed that wherever the local bodies had expressed their willingness to meet their quota of expenditure, Government should not hesitate to entertain the proposal because of their own inability to find their share of the funds. In Mysore District itself, there were two such cases. He urged that Government should liberalize their policy in this respect and meet the wishes of the people.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that such requests could only be complied with, provided the finances of Government permitted of it.

MR. S. G. SANKARIAH urged that the offer of Mr. Shampur Papanna to give a donation of Rs. 20,000 for the establishment of a hospital at Dodballapur be accepted and a hospital provided, the Government contributing a like sum.

THE SENIOR SURGEON replied that the resolutions of the District Board and the Municipality on the subject had reached him only the previous evening and that he would expedite submission of his proposals to Government.

MR. GURUSWAMI GOWDA brought to notice that one Mr. Venkatesia Chetty had promised a donation of Rs. 3,000 for opening a dispensary for women at Hoskote. He requested the Government to take necessary action in the matter.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the matter would be examined.

No. 49.—Establishment of dispensaries in two or three central places of taluks.

Messrs. Patel Veere Gowda and T. C. Subbe Gowda, Dodballapur Taluk; B. L. Byanna, Bangalore City Municipality; and B. M. Munisamappa, Bangalore Taluk.

MR. S. C. MALLAIYA represented that the absence of medical aid was keenly felt in villages. Wherever local bodies agreed to give contributions, he prayed that arrangements might be made to provide funds for the establishment of dispensaries in two or three central places of taluks with a midwife attached to each.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that it was being done as far as possible.

MR. MALLAIYA drew attention to the absence of any provision in the budget estimates for opening new dispensaries.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL explained that even then the quota of Government would be given for opening dispensaries in the order of urgency. For instance, there

might be greater urgency for opening new dispensaries in the Malnad and recommendations in respect thereof would certainly be considered favourably. He however made it clear that if a District Board promised to give its contribution for a number of dispensaries in one district, Government could not sanction all of them, as their funds were limited. Government had called for Five-Year programmes from all local bodies and the schemes, when received, would be sanctioned and executed in some definite order.

No. 50.—Bringing the Elementary Education Expansion Scheme into force.

Mr. L. Siddappa, Chennagiri Taluk.

This subject was discussed along with the next.

No. 51.—Increasing the number of primary schools in villages.

Messrs. Patel Veere Gowda and T. C. Subbe Gowda, Dodballapur Taluk.

MR. L. SIDDAPPA represented that according to the Elementary Education Regulation, the local education authorities were required to send up expansion schemes to the Director of Public Instruction. So far as the Shimoga District was concerned, when proposals were submitted by the School Board to the District Board, the latter was not in a position to provide funds. So, they simply forwarded the programme without pointing out the ways and means. The Education Department returned it saying that funds should be provided for it in the District Board budget and that the scheme could not be sanctioned till that was done. But the District Board could not provide funds as they were facing deficits for years together. Government had been pleased to sanction a special grant of Rs. 30,000 to the Shimoga District Board during the previous year; but their position was still far from satisfactory. They were unable to maintain even the existing schools, and so it would be impossible to provide funds for any scheme of expansion. People who had at first believed that the new Regulation was a boon were all disillusioned by now. They all felt that it was the obligatory duty of Government to meet the cost of elementary education entirely from State Funds. He therefore prayed that the entire scheme be given effect to by Government at their own cost.

MR. B. SRINIVASIENGAR of Anekal brought to notice that the Officiating Dewan (Sir M. N. Krishna Rao) had announced at the previous budget session of the Assembly that even if the local bodies were not able to send up the Ten-Year programmes, the Government's share of the cost would be

provided if at least partial schemes were sent up. He prayed that suitable provision be made for giving the Government contribution for both the items in the budget year.

MR. T. MADIAH GOWDA deplored that no manner of progress had been made in the matter of primary education ever since the passing of the Elementary Education Regulation, though it was intended to give a stimulus to it. This was because Government had lost interest in educational development, having transferred the responsibility to the local bodies. Illiteracy being the main cause of the backwardness of the people in the rural areas, Government should view the question with greater sympathy. During the previous year, when the same question was mooted in the Assembly, Government had absolved themselves from all responsibility by stating that the local bodies had not sent up schemes as required by the Regulation. But when schemes were actually sent up, Government failed to provide funds in the budget, and went on gaining time by mere correspondence and returning the schemes on some pretext or other. He therefore prayed that Government should provide adequate funds at least in the next year's budget. Otherwise, he would suggest that the Regulation itself be repealed, the Government bearing the entire responsibility for elementary education as in the past.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA represented that the District Boards were hesitating even to consider the schemes sent up by School Boards for fear that extra taxation would have to be proposed if financial responsibility for the schemes was undertaken, and their hesitation was all the greater on account of the fact that the raiyats were unable to bear even the existing taxes. They were therefore submitting the scheme to Government without scrutinizing the financial implications.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL, interrupting the speaker, asked how they could expect the Government to sanction schemes for execution of which the local bodies had not got the necessary funds.

MR. DEVA GOWDA replied that that was the reason why the House was in favour of Government bearing the entire responsibility.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA recapitulated that at the time of passing the Regulation, the First Member of Council was optimistic enough to hope that within ten years from then every inhabitant in the State would have learnt the three R's. On that account, the Assembly had characterized him

as the Gladstone of Mysore. But to the utter disappointment of the people, not even a single new school had been opened within the past 2 or 3 years. So far as the Mysore District was concerned, excepting Maddur and Krishnarajpet Taluks, no municipality had sent up any scheme for expansion and the department was not compelling them to send up proposals. But even where municipalities had sent up schemes, they had been returned on some ground or other. Instead of compelling them to go ahead with schemes of educational expansion and providing their own quota therefor, Government were diverting their attention to other less important and less welcome fields, such as compelling them to levy taxes on motors. At a time when the people found it hard to pay even the land revenue, Government were imposing additional taxes like excise duties on sugar, matches, etc. Even after the levy of the education cess, the Government had failed to provide more schools. The Mysore District Board was getting Rs. 5,000 from interest on investments and Rs. 20,000 as contributions from municipalities and they were prepared to spend all the Rs. 25,000 on expansion schemes, provided the Government paid their own quota. This, he pleaded, should be done without any hesitation. In case the Government were not willing to do it, it would be much better, as was urged by some of the previous speakers, if the Regulation itself was repealed.

Mr. P. Murugesam Pillay regretted that so far as the education of depressed classes went, not even one new primary school had been opened within the past 2½ years. On the other hand, the special schools now existing were being amalgamated with general schools. The result was a fall in the number of depressed class pupils attending schools. There were practical difficulties in the way of the depressed class boys mixing with those of higher castes. He had every hope that the existing difficulties could be overcome ere long, but till then it would be in the interest of the depressed classes themselves to provide special schools for them, especially in places where the general schools were housed in temples or *chavadies*. In the middle and high school grades, boys of the depressed classes had freer scope for mixing with those of higher castes, but any attempt on their part to develop contact with caste Hindu boys in primary schools was viewed with disfavour by the parents as well as the teachers. For this reason, he prayed that Government might provide necessary funds for opening more primary schools for boys of the depressed classes exclusively.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA remarked that it was an ingenious move on the part of the Government to have passed the Elementary Education Regulation whose only effect was the transfer of responsibility for primary education to the shoulders of local bodies.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL pointed out that the present economic depression could not have been anticipated either by the Government or by others at the time the Regulation was passed.

MR. GUNDAPPA replied that whatever the case, the fact remained that the local bodies could not ask for more schools, because they themselves were unable to meet their quota under the Regulation. If the responsibility had continued with Government, the people's representatives could have fought for additional grants in both the Constitutional Houses. The Hassan District Board had ear-marked a sum of Rs. 38,000 for non-recurring expenditure, out of which they were prepared to spend Rs. 20,000 on construction of school buildings during the current year and had provided that amount in their budget. But to their surprise, Government had arbitrarily reduced the provision to Rs. 6,000 without assigning any reasons. Apparently, they were unable to contribute their own quota.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL thought that there must have been some other reason for it.

MR. GUNDAPPA replied that no reason had been assigned whatever. Government had simply approved of the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction in the matter. He regretted that the discretion of the local body should have been fettered in regard to such a laudable object. The Government's action had placed the District Board in an awkward position and the members thereof were being taunted by those who had made liberal contributions for school buildings. The money was lying idle in the treasury. If it had been invested in banks, it would have at least yielded a decent sum by way of interest. The speaker wondered how the cause of education would progress at that rate and suggested that it was best that the Regulation was repealed.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL remarked that it would be well before pressing for the repeal of the Regulation to remember the undertaking given by the local bodies at the time the Regulation was passed. Both Government and the local bodies had their financial obligations under the scheme. And it was a fact that so far only 8 local

education authorities out of 12 had submitted concrete proposals; and of them, not one had provided for meeting their financial obligations. Four local education authorities had sent up full schemes, but two of them contained impossible proposals. For example, the Kolar District Board had suggested that the entire cost should be borne by Government. An equally impracticable proposal had come from another District Board. No details were received in respect of the remaining six districts. The proposals made by the Chitaldrug local education authority involved new taxation, and how far it was feasible at the present juncture had to be scrutinized. One of the recommendations related to the abolition of the railway cess and its conversion into some other cess. Thus, with the solitary exception of Chitaldrug, no other local education authority had sent up proposals about contributing its quota. The suggestion of the Mysore District Board was rather novel, *viz.*, that the balance of the local cess, after paying 76 per cent to local boards, might be appropriated for the purpose. For the past 50 years or so, it was being appropriated for another purpose and it was neither possible nor expedient to order a radical departure from that practice. No proposals had been received either from Bangalore or Hassan. If all this was borne in mind, it would be incorrect to say that local bodies had sent up schemes but that they were returned by Government on some pretext or other. The fact of the matter was that the few proposals received had been received only after a number of reminders from Government. All the same, Government were glad that the schemes had been received, because it showed that the local bodies had some sort of programmes before them.

As regards the particular representation under discussion, he said that it was entirely a question of funds. Government had their own difficulties in the matter, but there could be no gainsaying the fact that the local bodies were confronted with the problem to a greater extent than Government. If that was so, there was no use throwing all the blame on Government. They had first to formulate suitable programmes and then make concrete suggestions about providing their own quota. So far as Government were concerned, there was no idea of shirking their responsibility and funds would certainly be provided if schemes were once sanctioned, as was explained to the members of the Finance and Taxation Committee at its recent meeting. If the budget did not make any provision, it was because

administrative sanction had not been given as yet to any proposals. Government agreed that the progress so far was slow; but to the extent possible, they would be prepared to meet the cost of the schemes that might be sanctioned in the course of the year. He would therefore ask the members not to entertain any kind of misapprehensions in regard to this question.

As regards the complaint of Mr. H. B. Gundappa relating to the proposal of the Hassan District Board in respect of expenditure on account of school buildings, the Second Member of Council stated that that question had to be considered in connection with the general scheme for the entire State and could not be disposed of individually.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA, interrupting, represented that there was no justification in putting off consideration of the question when the District Board had provided the necessary funds, simply because the general question had not been settled. After all, the proposal related to utilizing a particular amount in only one year. It was not a recurring liability. He therefore prayed that special consideration be shown to it.

Thereupon, the SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL agreed to examine the point further so far as the proposal from the Hassan District was concerned. As for the general question of expansion of the scheme of elementary education, he said that steps would be taken to examine the scheme with reference to the coming year and to provide funds for meeting the Government's share of the cost to the utmost extent that the financial condition of the Government might permit.

MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR, referring to the question of Government grant for the construction of school buildings in Bangalore City, said that Government had once stated that lapsed grants relating to particular years would be made available for expenditure in succeeding years, in addition to the grants for such years, but that that promise had been lost sight of during the past 6 or 7 years.

He next reminded the First Member of Council that at the conference of Chairmen of School Boards he had been pleased to promise that Government would consider partial schemes for the expansion of elementary education even if the schemes were open to small technical objections. But when the schemes were sent up by the local bodies, the Director of Public Instruction, who stood between them and the Government, would invariably return them on account of so many alleged defects. For that reason, he said that

the local bodies would prefer to deal with Government direct in this matter, instead of through the department.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL remarked that the member would not be justified in attempting to cover the whole field of the policy of the department or the scheme of education in connection with this single representation.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMI thought that it would be advisable for the mover to withdraw the representation unless it was that he had tabled it in that strain out of sheer despair and his real object was to urge on the Government the urgent necessity to provide for their quota in the budget itself. But he would take the opportunity of saying that the Government were unjustly blaming the local bodies for not sending up the ten-year programmes. The fact was that it was impossible for them to forecast the requirements for a long period of ten years and visualise all the financial implications of such requirements. It was after this aspect of the matter was represented to Government that they had agreed to consider even partial schemes.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL pointed out that even such schemes had not been received.

MR. PUTTASWAMI said that the Mysore District Board had sent up the scheme.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL mentioned that though they had proposed the opening of a number of schools, the provision proposed for meeting the cost was not quite satisfactory. They had proposed the opening of 180 new schools at an extra recurring cost of Rs. 72,000; and a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,58,000 had also been proposed. But as regards financial provision, they had proposed that only two-fifths of the total amount would be made available immediately and that the balance could be met out of the realizations of the education cess and interest on investments. These proposals had been examined by the Finance Department and pronounced to be impracticable.

MR. PUTTASWAMI said that he would be prepared to satisfy the Finance Department as the District Board had an extra margin of Rs. 10,000.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that the Finance Department would be glad to be satisfied on the point, and as soon as that was done, Government would be prepared to provide their quota, subject of course to financial possibilities. The Member next assured the House that Government were at least as serious as the non-officials in the matter of educational expansion and that after the scrutiny of the

proposals was over, necessary provision for meeting the cost would be found.

No. 52.—Transfer of the middle school from Hullekere to Dandinsivara in the Gubbi Taluk.

Mr. D. Siddiah Gowda, Gubbi Taluk.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA prayed that the middle school which had been transferred from Dandinsivara to Hullekere might be re-transferred to Dandinsivara. In doing so, he represented that the school had been shifted from a village with 2,000 inhabitants to a smaller village in the interior. Besides being farther off from the railway station, the building now selected was also very poor. There was a special advantage in re-transferring the school to Dandinsivara because a spacious building was being constructed there with the object of getting the school converted into a middle school.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION said that the reason for the transfer was that the accommodation at Hullekere was more satisfactory and the people of Dandinsivara had been indifferent in the matter.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA asserted that it was not so, as would be evident from a perusal of the papers relating to the question. The action of the department in agreeing to the transfer of the school from a hobli headquarter to a smaller village was not at all agreeable or convenient to anybody else.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL pointed out that it was purely a local affair and that the Director of Public Instruction would examine the matter.

In explaining the facts of the case, MR. G. CHANNAPPA said that the school was transferred to Hullekere because it was in a languishing condition and there was no adequate accommodation at Dandinsivara. The people of the latter place had also stated at that time that they had no objection to the proposed transfer. Moreover, at Hullekere one Mr. Nanje Gowda had constructed a building at a cost of Rs. 8,000 for the middle school. There were 100 boys in the new school. After all, the distance between the two villages was barely one mile. In these circumstances, he thought that, instead of re-transferring the school, a separate school might be given for Dandinsivara if circumstances warranted it.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the Director would re-examine and settle the question.

No. 54.—Increasing the number of middle schools.

Messrs. Patel Veere Gowda and T. C. Subbe Gowda, Dodballapur Taluk; B. L Byanna, Bangalore City Municipality; and B. M. Munisamappa, Bangalore Taluk.

MR. S. C. MALLAIYA represented that the existing number of middle schools in villages was inadequate and prayed that their number might be increased. If the full benefit of primary education provided for by Government at a high cost should be reaped, it was necessary to induce the boys and girls to continue their education instead of making them stay at home for want of adequate facilities.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA said that when Government were not sanctioning the proposals of local bodies in respect of primary education itself, they would be still more unwilling to open new middle schools. He was afraid that if such a policy was pursued, there would be no educational progress in the State for hundreds of years. If on the ground of financial stringency the question was indefinitely postponed, Government would be faced with the problem in a serious form at a later stage, when educational expansion would entail ten times the expenditure required at present. He therefore suggested that, instead of not opening any new schools at all, a few at least might be opened every year.

MR. B. L. BYANNA asked what should happen to all the boys and girls in the rural parts if middle schools were not at all provided for them. The villagers could not all be expected to send their young children to the cities for prosecuting even middle school education. He felt that it was the duty of Government to provide middle schools in the villages and to make suitable provision for the purpose in the budget of each year.

MR. SIVANANJE GOWDA deplored the lack of adequate facilities even for primary education in the villages. So many village schools were of the single-teacher type and there were as many as 40 to 50 pupils in each class. This was not all. After the boys got through the Kannada fourth year class, they had to discontinue studies for want of middle schools near by. At that rate, he asked how the young boys of to-day could be expected to take up the duties and responsibilities of citizenship when they grew up to manhood. He thought that, to start with, middle schools ought to be opened in more central places so that each school might serve at least 5 or 6 surrounding villages.

MR. K. V VEERANNA, however, was of opinion that Government should pay their first attention to increasing

the number of primary schools and then think of opening middle schools if funds were available.

At this stage, the Assembly adjourned to meet again at 12 noon the next day.